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## A NEW RODENT FROM DUTCH NEW GUINEA

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A considerable collection of mammals recently received through Lieutenant Harry Hoogstraal and collected mainly by Stanley G. Jewett, Jr., includes various rare and interesting forms but little represented in American museums. Among the smaller rodents is one quite obviously undescribed which may be called

### *Paraleptomys rufilatus* sp. nov.

*Type* from Mount Dafonsero, Cyclops Mountains, northeastern Dutch New Guinea. Altitude 4,700 feet. Chicago Natural History Museum No. 54236. Adult male. Collected April 21, 1945, by Stanley G. Jewett, Jr. Orig. No. 722.

*Characters*.—Generally similar to *P. wilhelmina* (Tate and Archbold, Amer. Mus. Nov., No. 1101, p. 1, 1941), but somewhat larger with broader hind feet and differing widely in color. Tail about equal to or slightly shorter than head and body. Especially characterized by a white throat, a broad fulvous lateral line, and wholly dark-colored legs. Median upper parts narrowly Bone Brown becoming Army Brown laterally and slightly more rufescent on upper sides; a broad (8–10 mm.) lateral line clear Mikado Brown (or Pecan Brown), narrowed antero-posteriorly, but extending from the sides of the neck to the inner sides of the hind legs; top of head dusky as in *wilhelmina* but sides of head more rufescent; under parts with the chin and throat broadly white to roots of hairs, the chest and belly with light-tipped dark-based hairs more or less mixed with fulvous; forelegs and forefeet grayish brown to base of toes, which are abruptly white; inner side of forelegs very narrowly and discontinuously whitish; hind legs including thighs wholly rufescent, clearest on inner sides in confluence with lateral line; hind feet white with brownish of hind legs extending over tarsal joint; tail sooty brownish above, narrowly and irregularly lighter below.

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Skull with all general characters as in *wilhelmina*; size larger; palatine foramina shorter; front of zygomatic plate more excavated and approaching the vertical instead of slanting backward; molari-form teeth  $\frac{2}{2}$  with pattern quite as in *wilhelmina*.

*Measurements*.—Type and paratype respectively: total length 260, 267; tail vertebrae 131, 131; hind foot 35, 35. Skull of type: greatest length 35; basilar length 26.7; zygomatic breadth 16.6; breadth of braincase 14.2; interorbital breadth 6.3; length of nasals 13.2; diastema 8.3; palatine foramina 4.5; upper toothrow 4.8.

*Remarks*.—The pronounced color characters of this species leave no doubt of its distinctness. Direct comparison has been made with *P. wilhelmina*, specimens of which have been lent by the American Museum of Natural History through Mr. G. H. H. Tate.

The pure white throat shown by our specimens is suggestive of the white under parts in certain examples of *Leptomys ernstmayeri*, but whether this has any significance as to the relationship of *Leptomys* and *Paraleptomys* seems doubtful. Ellermann (Fam. and Gen. Rodents, 2, p. 303, under *Caelaenomys*) says: "I think little importance should be attached to the presence or absence of M.3 in this group, as when present the tooth is at the point of suppression." Material, however, is still scanty and present generic separations at least have the advantage of convenience.